

SUPPLEMENT TO THE NÚRAFSHÁN

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Editorial Notes.

One of the most striking testimonies to the power of the Gospel is given by Rev. H. S. Saunders, Rector of Eastmore, England. Speaking of the influence of Rev. C.M. Sheldon's book "What would Jesus Do," he stated "that several leading merchants on the Corn Exchange have been led to alter their entire method of business through reading this book." This is the proper effect of the Gospel wherever preached.

When Mr Sheldon began presenting the chapters of the book *What would Jesus Do* to his congregation in Topeka, (U.S.A.) many people took offence at the "sensational preaching." Surely more of this kind of sensational preaching is in order.

We are sorry to note how far behind the times our neighbor, *The Arya Patrika* is. We presented to our readers a few specimens of the questions and answers contained in the Arya Catechism No I, which are in some instances verbatim quotations from the Westminster Shorter Catechism. In regard to this the *Arya Patrika* says:

"We do not know what are the contents of Catechism No 1. to which our contemporary refers. We confess we have not seen it even once in so many years of our Somajic life:

Nor can it be had from any of our important libraries."

This surely is "culpable ignorance." The Catechism can be obtained from Madras. There are in all five Catechisms prepared by Mr. R. Ragoonath Row and printed at the Hindu Press No. 191 Mount Road Madras. We hold a copy of the Third edition printed in 1892. The author has presumed to cut out everything, which he regarded as distinctively Christian, claiming that the Christians were indebted to Vedic Dharma for the "facts" contained in their Westminster Shorter Catechism!

When these audacious claims are set forth by the Aryas we think of the man who having stolen his master's coat, and, having cut of the tell-tale buttons and collar, has the impertinence to appear in public donned in the mutilated garment, and when accused of having stolen the coat, he blandly says, "Yes I appropriated that coat, but I have reasons satisfactory to myself to show that the cloth of this coat once belonged to my ancestors!"

We have no quarrel with our esteemed contemporary. Sometime since he challenged us to show any one thing for which Aryaism is indebted to Christianity. We think we have fairly met his challenge. Would it not be wiser for the Arya Somaj, instead of bolstering up the claims of Dayanand that all knowledge has been derived from the Vedas, to

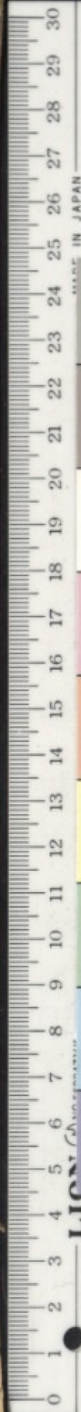
frankly confess their obligation to the Bible, to Jesus Christ and to the Christian Church.

Anent Dyanand's fanciful interpretation of the Vedas whereby he evolves a steam engine out of a white horse, the *Arya Patrika* says; "No missionary has yet refuted his interpretation nor can they do that!"

The missionary may fairly reply that he is under no obligation to "refute" an interpretation, which no Sanserit scholar, Native or European, has yet accepted. There is absolutely no authority for this interpretation excepting the dictum of Dyanand. If such methods of interpretation are to be recognized, then we can make any passage mean anything.

We are glad to announce the appearance of the first number of *Dharm da Channan*, the new magazine for Punjabi Women. Will not those of our readers who have not received a copy send to us for a sample copy, which will be sent post free. We are anxious that all who believe in this magazine should subscribe for one or more copies. A good subscription list will insure the success of this important enterprise.

The monthly conference for District Workers held at Morinda was "a glorious" success. The power of the Holy Spirit was present and all were greatly helped. May the Spirit's power be more and more recognized. Then we shall see apostolic lives and work among our converts.



Current Thought.

Death of Joseph Rabinowitz.

MANY will hear with sorrow of the death of Joseph Rabinowitz, the well-known Hebrew Christian evangelist and teacher. For some time past Mr. Rabinowitz has been in failing health, and lately his condition gave rise to much anxiety. It was hoped, however, that his life would be spared; but such was not the will of God. On Wednesday morning last week this man of world-wide name and fame, as a guide of Jews to Christ, passed peacefully away; and as the Observer surveys the field, he says: "What a loss to the Jewish Mission! There is no one to replace Rabinowitz." God knows; God is able!

The story of this man is altogether singular. A lawyer in Kischineff, a scholar and philanthropist, Rabinowitz had in early life a commanding influence among his Hebrew brethren; he loved his nation, and was loved in return. About twenty-five years ago, when the Jews were suffering much from persecution in Russia, he was selected to visit Palestine for the purpose of promoting a colonisation scheme. He provided himself with guide-books for the journey, and although having no leanings towards Christianity, he yielded to the advice of someone to take a New Testament with him, as furnishing an admirable directory to the sacred places of Jerusalem and its vicinity.

Arrived in the land of his fathers, Mr. Rabinowitz was soon involved in serious reflections. Sitting on the brow of the Mount of Olives, he thought of the city at his feet—why its long desolation, why the scattering of its people to the ends of the earth, why the re-erudescence of persecution in various lands in which Israel had found refuge? While distressed by these questions, he looked in the direction of the reputed site of the hill of Calvary, and in a flash the answers were impressed upon his heart and mind: "We

have rejected the Messiah; hence our long casting off and dispersion by Jehovah." With the eye of faith he looked upon the crucified; he cried, "My Lord and my God!" and from being a Hebrew of the Hebrews, he became an Israelite of the New Covenant, a disciple of Jesus of Nazareth.

Taking the New Testament from his pocket, he found it a guide-book in a sense of which he had not dreamed. He read the first passage that met his eye: "I am the Vine, ye are the branches.....without Me ye can do nothing." In his own words: "I saw it in the twinkling of an eye. Our Jewish bankers, with their millions of gold, can do nothing for us; our scholars and statesmen, with all their wisdom, can do nothing for us; our colonisation societies, with all their influence and capital, can do nothing for us, our only hope is in our brother Jesus, whom we crucified, and whom God raised up and set at his own right hand. *Without Him we can do nothing.*"

Returning to Russia, Mr. Rabinowitz boldly announced, far and wide, his acceptance of Jesus Christ as his Saviour and Lord. In the synagogue and through the press he spoke with plainness and vigour, and at length persecution and obloquy were meted out to him in return. Familiar with the letter of Scripture, and now enlightened so as to discern its inner spirit, the new believer in Christ waxed bolder and stronger, and attracted the attention of many who were seeking the good of Israel.

The significance of his conversion and the importance of his work were almost at once detected by the late Professor Franz Delitzsch, who spoke of the man as "a star in the firmament of his people's history," and of the movement in South Russia as "prelude of the end," when the remnant of Israel should return unto the Lord. To the surprise of many the Government gave permission for the erection of a synagogue in which this remarkable man could preach regularly, and to serve as a home and centre of his varied undertakings.

From year to year these have grown, and Somerville Hall and its prophet have a place in the prayers of many who remember Zion. And not only have the spoken discourses been greatly blessed, but the printed page has gone far and wide and been means of implanting Gospel truth in many Jewish hearts. Baptised in Berlin in 1884, Rabinowitz

made continual progress in grace and in the knowledge of Christ. It is a joy to know that he has never lacked friends among British Christians, who now praise God for his testimony, and invoke his protecting and providing care upon the mourning family. *The Christian.*

"In Meekness Instructing."

A REMARK of Mr. Moody's touching controversial expressions is worth remembering and acting upon. Speaking of one term in particular, he said, "I never use it. I don't contradict these men. I try to win them." And he mentioned more than one case in which this endeavour had not been without success.

Many false opinions are the result of men's circumstances and surroundings, and instead of scolding them it would surely be wiser and more effectual to seek to discover the cause of their aberration. An unsympathetic orthodoxy is quite likely to drive men into a sympathetic heterodoxy.

The affections and the will have very much to do with one's beliefs. College friendships with men of superior intellect, at a time when opinions are being formed and convictions are being received, lead the weaker to say ditto to the views of the stronger, and influence them long after the immediate personal contact has ceased.

Kindness, courtesy, and forbearance will win a brother to the truth when a different course would drive him further from it and confirm him in his error. There are men whose career has been blighted by a mischievous error, from which they might have been won by a kind and patient treatment, but into which they were driven by a rough and censorious demeanour.

We are to "content earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints;" yet "the servant of the Lord must not strive, but be gentle unto all, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing them that oppose themselves, if God peradventure will give them change of mind to the acknowledging of the truth, and that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the Devil who are taken captive by him at his will." *M.*

It is said that fifteen thousand Jews have been led to Christ by reading Dr. Delitzsch's Hebrew translation of the New Testament.—Missionary Advocate.

STAR WORSHIP.

A curious survival of the star worship of Chaldaea exists in the shape of the sect of Mandaeans, otherwise known as Sabaeans, Nasoreans and St. John Christians. There are four or five thousands of them, living in towns along the lower Euphrates and Tigris. Their customs and ritual, as far as known—for the Mandaeans are jealously esoteric—were described in a paper read at the Victoria Institute on behalf of Rev. Samuel T. Zweimer, head of a mission in Arabia. Men and women are of very fine physique. They raise the finest dairy produce in Mesopotamia, build a special kind of canoe, and are all silversmiths. Their worship is a composite of all the religions that have appeared on the plain. They turn to the North Star in prayer, and baptize every Sunday. One informant tells how they bathe towards midnight in the river, and on emerging put on white robes. In an open space before the tabernacle the priest places the sacred book, 'Sidra Rabba,' on the altar. Two live pigeons are handed to him. One is held towards the polar star and released, with the invocation, 'In the name of the living One, blessed be primitive light, the ancient light, Divinely self-created.' The other pigeon has its throat cut, and the blood is let fall on wafers, four spots on each, forming a cross. These are put into the mouths of the worshippers by priests, with the words, 'Marked be thou with the mark of the Living One.'

Dead Dervishes.

Mr. Bennet, the war correspondent who made attacks on the Sirdar is still keeping up the fight with the many who have contradicted his statements. Mr. John M. Simms, Presbyterian Chaplain to the Forces, in a *Times* letter in reply to the Oxford Don, says:—All fighting, savage or civilised, is terrible, and inextricably bound up with much that only can be awful; but that any needless cruelty was perpetrated by our officers or men, or that one poor life was ruthlessly destroyed, I absolutely deny. During lulls in the battle our soldiers could be heard exclaiming almost in chorus, and the words made one's heart beat fast with pride, "Ah! it's a shame, it's cruel to shoot down these brave men," though at the next moment they were compelled to level their rifles at them. I could tell, did your space permit, of chivalrous fellows though not of Oxford, who would be alive and well or unmaimed to-day if only they

could have had the heart to have seemed heartless in their treatment of Dervishes apparently dead. Their memory will be held in grateful honour by the nation when all their detractors are forgotten.

The Czar as a Bicyclist.

The Czar has from his boyhood been a keen cyclist, and the Czaritsa, when her health permitted, has occasionally shown her skill as a wheelwoman. But latterly his Majesty appears to have given up pedalling, and has had made for himself in Paris a petroleum tricycle of burnished steel, fitted with all the latest improvements. The machine is wholly devoid of ornament except in the form of a silver escutcheon attached to the left steering-bar, on which are emblazoned the Imperial arms. In speed it is said to be a record-breaker. A little chariot of wickerwork is being constructed in St. Petersburg for the use of the Czaritsa, who will thus be towed behind her august consort in comfort, and, let us hope, in safety. It is understood that these two vehicles are to accompany the young sovereigns in the visits which they propose to pay later in the year to various European Courts.

The Washington correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* states that Russia first and Germany next are mainly responsible for the defeat of the Arbitration Treaty. He says:—Agents of both Governments have been extremely active with the senators to induce them to prevent the ratification of the treaty. I am told by a leading senator that if certain private correspondence could be published it would show to what length Russia and Germany have gone to prevent ratification. While apparently working independently, it is evident that both diplomatic agents in this capital are acting in concert and under the explicit instructions of their respective Governments.

A was a monarch who reigned in the East. —Esther i., 1.

B was a Chaldean who made a great feast. —Daniel v., 1-4.

C was veracious when others told lies. —Numbers xiii., 30-33.

D was a woman heroic and wise. —Judges iv., 4-14.

E was a refuge where David spared Saul. —1. Samuel xxiv., 1-7.

F was a Roman accuser of Paul. —Acts xxvi., 24.

G was a garden, a frequent resort.

—John xviii., 1-2; Matt. xxvi., 36.

H was a city where David held court.

—II. Samuel ii., 11.

I was a mocker, a very bad boy.

—Genesis xvi., 16.

J was a city preferred as a joy.

—Psalm cxxx., 6.

K was a father whose son was quite tall.

—Samuel ix., 12.

L was a proud one who had a great fall.

—Isaiah xiv., 12.

M was a nephew whose uncle was good.

—Col. iv., 19; Acts iv., 24.

N was a city long hid where it stood.

—Zach. ii., 13.

O was a servant acknowledged a brother.

—Philemon i., 16.

P was a Christian greeting another.

—II. Timothy iv., 21.

R was a damsel who knew a man's voice.

—I. Kings xi., 4-11.

S was the Syrian who had cause to rejoice.

—Luke iv., 27.

T was a seaport where preaching was long.

—Acts xx., 6-7.

U was a teamster struck dead for his wrong.

—Samuel vi., 7.

V was a cast-off, and never restored.

—Esther i., 19.

Z was a ruin with sorrow deplored.

—Psalm cxxxvi.

Selection.

Wild Oats

Sown—in many a sunny field
Where flaunting poppies wave;
Reaped—where solemn yew trees shield
A mother's lonely grave!

Sown—around a happy home
And near its sheltering door;
Reaped—where weary exiles roam
Upon a foreign shore.

Sown—in morning's golden light
A full and heaped-up measure;
Reaped—amid the shades of night,
Like an ill gotten treasure.

Sown—in wild and reckless joy,
Midst boyhood's laughing years;
Reaped—in bitterest alloy
With manhood's burning tears.

Sown—a light wind's idle tale
So witty and so droll;
Reaped—the whirlwind's stormy wall
Over a ruined soul!

Sown—along life's broad highway
In summer's merry hours;
Reaped—in age's wintry day—
Sharp thorns instead of flowers!

Sown—while Heaven's open gate
Stood wide the soul to win;
Reaped—the dreadful words "Too late!"
"Ye cannot enter in."

The sowing time all bright and fair,
With hope behind the plough;
But oh! the harvest of despair
That some are reaping now!

—E. A. Scott, in *The Christian*.

Telegrams

London, July 6.

The President of the Orange Free State, in a speech at the closing of the Rand, said that he still hoped for a peaceful settlement of the dispute between Great Britain and the Transvaal, but if war came on, it would not be the fault of the Transvaal.

London, July 6.

An order has been issued at Washington to enlist ten Volunteer regiments for service in the Philippines.

[London, July 6.

Earl Spencer, speaking at Cambridge, condemned the Indian countervailing duty proposals as akin to protective duties.

London, July 6.

Lord George Hamilton, replying to a question in the House of Commons this evening regarding the attacks made by Pathans, said that if the partial disarmament in Peshawar etc., was ineffectual, total disarmament would be enforced.

London, July 6.

Emperor William, who is cruising off Norway, went aboard the French warship *Iphigene* which is lying in those waters. The Kaiser's visit is much commented on in Paris.

Allahabad, July 7.

London, 6th July.—The boast so repeatedly made by M. de Beaupaire that he could produce irrefutable evidence of the guilt of Dreyfus has exploded amid universal laughter, the quondam judge of the Court of Cassation having been the victim of an absurd hoax. The perpetrator of the hoax employed a veiled lady as intermediary who obtained subsidies amounting to 750 francs with which he professed to have made journey to Basle, Brussels and Stuttgart for the purpose of obtaining documents sworn to be in Dreyfus's handwriting and a letter supposed to be from the Kaiser. The unknown now returns M. de Beaupaire's money and publishes the whole correspondence in the *Figaro* under the signature of "Karl." The calm de. meunour exhibited by Dreyfus since his return to France commands general admiration. It is clear that he has completely mastered everything occurring during his exile.

The citizens of Buda Pesth are subscribing to present a sword of honour to Colonel Picquart.

London, July 7.

The Transvaal Volksraad has adopted a reform conferring the franchise forthwith on all Uitlanders who have been resident in the country for nine years and on all future newcomers after seven years' residence. The gold fields will also receive four new members.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* states that Indian native regiments will replace British troops in Malta and Egypt in the event of a large increase of garrison at the Cape.

Mr. Balfour in the House of Commons this evening said that no contingency had yet arisen necessitating a material increase of force in South Africa, but it was necessary under existing circumstances to bring the force to a proper standard of efficiency and mobility.

London, July 7.

An attempt has been made to murder the ex-King Milan in Belgrade. A young man fired four revolver shots at His Majesty, one bullet slightly grazing him. The assailant was arrested.

London, July 7.

The plague returns at Mauritius show 43 cases and 35 deaths since 25th June.

Rangoon, July 7.

Three other men have been handed over by the military to the civil authorities in connection with the Rangoon outrage case. An identification parade was held to day, but the civilian witnesses failed to identify any of the accused. The case is expected to come on for public hearing in a week.

London, July 9.

Mr. Schreiner the Cape Premier, declares that the Cape Government regards the proposal made by the Transvaal Volksraad as satisfactory and tending to a peaceful settlement.

Sir Gordon Sprigg, ex-Premier of the Cape, describes the proposed reforms as being totally inadequate, and as defeating Sir Alfred Milner's desire for the Uitlanders to work out their own salvation.

London, July 8.

The French Press regard the Emperor William's visit to the French warship *Iphigene* as the possible beginning of a change of policy which both England and Russia should note.

London, July 8.

Mr. Brodrick, replying to a question by Lord Charles Beresford in the House of Commons said that British subjects were liable to serve in the Militia in the Dutch Indies.

Bombay, July 8.

Darya Begi has been in pursuit of the rebellious chief Lingah and his sympathisers. He has failed and has returned to Bunder Abbas, leaving a small garrison at Lingah.

Calcutta, July 10.

An extraordinary incident is reported from Dhubri. On the arrival of the mail steamer it was discovered that two tigers had taken refuge within ten yards of the receiving flat. The Europeans on board the steamer and from the station assembled with guns, rifles and revolvers while an enormous crowd of natives gathered round. The tigers suddenly broke cover. One escaped swimming down the river, and the other hid in an overturned boat. A furious fusillade followed, and the tiger was killed, also a native shot through the head by a stray bullet.

Bombay, July 8.

A Beshire correspondent writes to the *Times of India* anent plague in that town, that if preventive measures are decided on it is difficult to see how they can be carried out. The population believe they have only to menace and the Central Government will give way. The priesthood are already inflaming the minds of the populace against the idea of plague measures and organising demonstrations against the Indian doctors.

Karachi, July 8.

Yesterday's returns were sent in wrong. The 7th should have shown 1 case and 1 death. In the Keemar health camp to-day there was 1 death.

London, July 10.

The death is announced of the Czarewitch.

London, July 10.

The *Standard's* Johannesburg correspondent telegraphs that the franchise concessions adopted by the Raad are profoundly disappointing to the Uitlanders, who anxiously await the action of the Imperial Government.

London, July 10.

The mobilisation of the fleet commences to-morrow prior to the annual manœuvres which are to be on an unusual scale as 118 ships will participate.

London, July 9.

The Indian Currency Committee's report recommends a gold standard with the sovereign as legal tender, and fixing the rupee at sixteen pence.

London, July 10.

Mr. Brodrick in the House of Commons to day stated that owing to illness Mr. Berkeley, Commissioner for Uganda, had resigned. The moment was opportune to send a special Commissioner to report on what posts it was desirable to establish, especially in view of Major Martyr's advance to the Nile, and Sir Harry Johnston would be appointed with full powers.

Calcutta, July 11.

The trial of John Norman Ross, charged with murdering a villager near Silchar, concluded at the Calcutta High Court yesterday. The Chief Justice summed up in favour of the accused, and the jury after an absence of three-quarters of an hour returned with a verdict of not guilty. Ross was also acquitted on the minor charge with regard to the man Abdul Ghafus.

Simla, July 10.

Government has received the following intelligence with regard to the report of the Currency Commission which was signed on the 7th instant.

Bombay, July 11.

An important arrest in connection with the military grain frauds at Secunderabad took place on Sunday. Muhammad Kassim, a pensioned pay *Havildar* of the 11th Madras Infantry, was charged with being in collusion with the price current clerk to regulate the price current and distribute the circular to the *Koneals* of the different native troops so that if the Commanding Officers disputed the prices of food stuffs appearing in their sheet and made reference to the Cantonment Officer, those prices were found to tally with the prices fixed by the Cantonment Officer. He is also accused of being the instrument of payments as commission made by Regimental *Koneals* to the Cantonment Clerk.

Karachi, July 10.

Returns for the 9th show one case only; and on the 10th there was clean sheet.

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